Simplification of Tax Laws

14. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to simplify the tax laws to make them more user friendly;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have reviewed the accountability of assessing officers along with the simplification of tax laws in the post-reform period and if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) to what extent there has been an increase in revenue collection attributed to the improved administrative machinery and better tax compliance during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Simplification of tax laws to make them more user-friendly is an ongoing process. Efforts are continously made to simplify the tax laws, subject to revenue constraints.

(c) Accountability has been included as a 'Key Result Area' in the Action Plan for the financial year 1995-96.

(d) It is not possible to quantify the increase in revenue collection on account of improved administrative machinery and better tax compliance. However, the data of tax collection during the last three years show an upward trend.

Power projects in Gujarat and Maharashtra

15. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power projects identified in Gujarat and Maharashtra either in the private sector or in public sector to be installed with or without foreign aid during the next five years;

(b) whether it is a fact that inspite of clearance of various power projects by the CEA, many States could not execute the projects;

(c) whether Government have identified further such projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) The details of power projects identified in Gujarat and Maharashtra and which have been accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) are given in statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The details of projects identified for Gujarat and Maharashtra, which have been received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for accord of techno-economic clearance, are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

List of Power Projects accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority.

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
	Gujarat	
1.	Paguthan CCGT (M/s. Gujarat Torrent Energy Corpn. Ltd.)	654.7
2.	Gandhi Nagar Extn. (Unit-5)	1×210
3.	Wanakbori Extn. (Unit-7) Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Ltd.	1×210
4.	Hazira CCGT (M/s. Essar Power Ltd.)	515

5.	Petro Chemical Complex Power Plant at Baroda (M/s. Gujarat Industrial Power Corporation Ltd.)	167
Maharashtra		
1.	Bhivpuri PSS (M/s. Tata Electric Co.)	1×90
2.	Dabhol CCGT (M/s. Dabhol Power Company)	2015
3.	Bhadravati (M/s. Central India Power Company Ltd.)	2×536

Statement-II

List of Power Projects under examination by the Central Electricity Authority for accord of techno-economic clearance.

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
Gujarat		
1.	Mangrol Lignite (Pvt. Sec.)	1×250
2.	Ghoga Lignite (Joint venture)	2×120
3.	Lignite Fired power project, Kharsalia (M/s. Gujarat Power Corporation Ltd.)	2×120
4.	Jamnagar (Pvt. Sec.)	2×250
5.	Gujarat coastal (Gujarat Electricity Board)	2×250
6.	Pipavav GT Combined Cycle plant (M/s. Gujarat Power Corporation Ltd.)	615
7.	Coal Based Coastal Power Station (M/s. Gujarat Power Corporation Ltd.)	2×500
8.	Surat Lignite Based Power Plant (M/s. Gujarat Industrial Power Corporation Ltd.)	2×125
9.	Kawas CCGT Ph. II (National Thermal Power Corporation)	650
Maharashtra		
1.	Chikhaldara Pumped Storage Scheme	2×200

डालर-रुपए की विनिमय दर

16. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:**
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सच है कि हाल ही में डालर के मुकाबले रुपए की कीमत में और गिरावट आई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1991 के दौरान देश में डालर के मुकाबले रुपए की क्या कीमत थी;

(ग) फरवरी, 1996 के प्रथम सप्ताह में डालर-रुपए की विनिमय दर क्या थी और क्या भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था की दयनीय स्थिति डालर के मुकाबले रुपए की कीमत में गिरावट होने के लिए उत्तरदायी है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० देवीप्रसाद पाल): (क) 6.2.1996 को एक विशेष समय बिंदु पर रुपए की विनिमय दर प्रति अमरीकी डालर लगभग 38.0 रुपये के निम्न स्तर तक पहुंच गई, लेकिन यह पुनः सुधर कर 23.2.1996 को प्रति अमरीकी डालर 36.56 रुपए हो गई।

(ख) वर्ष 1991 के लिए रुपए की औसत विनिमय दर प्रति अमरीकी डालर 22.69 रुपए थी, लेकिन यह नोट किया जाना चाहिए कि 1991 में विनिमय दर प्रणाली एक समान नहीं थी।

(ग) और (घ):फरवरी, 1996 के प्रथम सप्ताह के दौरान डालर-रुपया विनिमय दरें नीचे दी गयीं हैं:—